

W.C.HANDY'S Careless Love



HEAR LENA HORNE
VICTOR RECORD #27545
ALBUM #P082

HANDY BROTHERS MUSIC CO., Inc.
PUBLISHERS
"Genuine American Music"
1650 BROADWAY, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The melody of "Careless Love" according to W. C. Handy is half century old having been sung in the south to guitar and banjo accompaniment by illiterate singers whose diction led musical research students to list "Careless Love" as "Kelly's Love." See Odem & Johnson version (without music) page 194.

The song was given its greatest impetus by a Kentucky tragedy which furnished the motif for an impromptu epic approximating 100 stanzas, which Handy, himself sang in Henderson, Kentucky, until police interfered since a Hendersonian was involved in the tragedy. In 1921, Pace & Handy Music Co. copyrighted this melody publishing it as the chorus of "Loveless Love". Both "Loveless Love" and "Careless Love" appeared in "Blues An Anthology" edited by W. C. Handy with introduction by Abbie Niles and published by A. & C. Boni, Inc., 1926.

Handy Brothers Music Co. Inc.
Editors.



Careless Love

3

(Folk - Melody)

Tune Uke

A D F# B

Put Capo on 1st Fret

W. C. HANDY

Piano

If I were a lit - tle bird I'd fly from
When I wore my a - pron low When I

tree to — tree I'd build my nest way
wore my a - pron low, When I wore my

up in the air Where the bad boys could not both - er me.
a - pron low He — al - ways passed right by my door.

Uke Arr. by
Millard G. Thomas

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Refrain

Love, oh love oh care-less love
Now I wear my a - pron high

8va

Love oh love oh care-less love
Now I wear my a - pron high

8va You've

broke the heart of a man - y poor girl But you'll
Now I wear my a - pron high And he

8va

nev - er break this heart of mine.
nev - er nev - er pass - es by.

D.C.

Careless Love

Music by
W. C. HANDY

Words by
MARTHA E. KOENIG and
SPENCER WILLIAMS

Love, oh love, oh careless love,
You fly to the head like wine
You've wrecked the life of many a poor gal
And you nearly spoiled this life of mine.

Love, oh love, oh careless love,
In your clutches of desire
You've made me break a many true vow
Then you set my very soul on fire.

Love, oh love, oh careless love,
All my happiness bereft
You've filled my heart with weary old blues
Now I'm walkin' talkin' to myself.

Love, oh love, oh careless love,
Trusted you now it's too late
You've made me throw my only friend down
That is why I sing this hymn of hate.

Love, oh love, oh careless love,
Night and day I weep and moan
You brought the wrong man into my life
For my sins till judgement I'll atone.

Love, oh love, oh careless love,
Here is all that I can say
Just like a Gypsy I'm roamin' 'round
And just can't keep the blues away.

Love, oh love, oh careless love,
Like a thief comes in the night
You came into this glad heart of mine
Then you put my happiness to flight.

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As played by EARL HINES and His Orchestra
on Bluebird Record 10674 - A.

Piano Solo

By

EARL HINES

Medium Blues Tempo

Piano

mf

gva bass

gva

gva

*Treble mf
Bass mp*

gva

gva

Bass and Treble mp

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